### § 971.803

the Administrator and the Federal agency receiving the information;

- (2) A request that the other Federal agency notify the Administrator immediately upon receipt of any request for disclosure of the information; and
- (3) A request that all copies of the information be returned to the Administrator for secure storage or disposal promptly after the Federal agency determines that it no longer needs the information for its official use.
- (g) When satisfied that adequate protection against public disclosure exists, applicants should provide the State agency with confidential and proprietary information which the State agency maintains is necessary to make a reasoned decision on the consistency of the proposal. State agency requests for such information must be related to the necessity of having such information to assess adequately the coastal zone effects of the proposal.

## § 971.803 Relinquishment and surrender of licenses and permits.

- (a) Any licensee or permittee may at any time, without penalty:
- (1) Surrender to the Administrator a license or permit issued to the licensee or permittee; or
- (2) Relinquish to the Administrator, in whole or in part, any right to conduct any exploration or commercial recovery activities authorized by the license or permit.
- (b) Any licensee or permittee who surrenders, or relinquishes any right under, a license or permit will remain liable with respect to all violations and penalties incurred, and damage to persons or property caused, by the licensee or permittee as a result of activities engaged in by the licensee or permittee under the license or permit.

#### §971.804 Amendment to regulations for conservation, protection of the environment, and safety of life and property at sea.

The Administrator may amend the regulations in this part and 15 CFR part 970 at any time as the Administrator determines to be necessary and appropriate in order to provide for the conservation of natural resources, protection of the environment, or the safety of life and property at sea. The

amended regulations will apply to all exploration or commercial recovery activities conducted under any license or permit issued or maintained pursuant to this part or 15 CFR part 970, except that amended regulations which provide for conservation of natural resources will apply to activities conducted under an existing license or permit during the present term of that license or permit only if the Administrator determines that the amended regulations providing for conservation of natural resources will not impose serious or irreparable economic hardship on the licensee or permittee. Any amendment to regulations under this section will be made pursuant to the procedures in subpart I of this part.

#### § 971.805 Computation of time.

Except where otherwise specified, Saturdays, Sundays and Federal Government holidays will be included in computing the time period allowed for filing any document or paper under this part or 15 CFR part 970, but when a time period expires on any of these days, that time period will be extended to include the next following Federal Government work day. Filing periods expire at the close of business on the day specified, for the office specified.

# **Subpart I—Uniform Procedures**

## § 971.900 Applicability.

The regulations of this subpart govern the following hearings conducted by NOAA under this part and under 15 CFR part 970:

- (a) All adjudicatory hearings required by section 116(b) of the Act to be held on the following actions upon a finding by the Administrator that one or more specific and material issues of fact exist which require resolution by formal process, including but not limited to:
- (1) All applications for issuance or transfer of licenses or permits;
- (2) All proposed TCRs on a license or permit; and
- (3) All proposals to modify significantly a license or permit;